

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application, claims 1-6 and 13-15 having been amended herein.

Claims 16-19 have been added to further define the spiral shaped groove recited in independent claim 13. No new matter has been added.

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph for being indefinite.

Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saukkonen et al. in view of Heymanns.

Claims Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph for being indefinite. In view of the amendments to the claims it is submitted that the Examiner's rejections of claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, have been overcome.

Claims Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saukkonen et al. in view of Heymanns. The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

The present invention relates to a reel-up/winder including a reel spool for forming a roll and

a support assembly. The support assembly includes a first roll, a second roll and a belt arranged around the first roll and the second roll. One of the first roll and the second roll has a substantially spiral shaped groove pattern formed on an outer surface of the roll that extends along an axial width of the roll. Thus, according to the claimed invention, the roll provided with the substantially spiral shaped groove is *arranged within the belt loop*.

Saukkonen et al. relates to an apparatus for controlling the reeling of a web. Essentially, Saukkonen et al. discloses a support member that comprises a plurality of rolls around which a belt is arranged. However, there is no teaching or suggestion whatsoever in Saukkonen et al. to provide any of the plurality of rolls with a spiral-shaped groove in the manner claimed.

Heymanns discloses a rider roll having a screwlike groove. Essentially, the Examiner contends it would have been obvious to have arranged the roll having a screwlike groove disclosed in Heymanns within the belt loop of Saukkonen et al. to thereby arrive at the claimed invention. However, as discussed in greater detail below, it is submitted that it would have not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have made the substitution proposed by the Examiner.

The roll disclosed in Heymanns is provided with screwlike grooves 14 to prevent pucker and wrinkles in the web. In order to achieve this function, the screwlike grooves 14 *must* be in direct contact with the web. Thus, it would not be obvious to arrange the roll disclosed in Heymanns within the belt loop of Saukkonen et al., as proposed by the Examiner, since in doing so the screwlike grooves would fail to be in direct contact with the web and would thus would not be able to achieve their intended function. Therefore, it is submitted that it would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill to combine the teachings of Saukkonen et al. with the teachings of Heymanns in the manner proposed by the Examiner.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments it is submitted that the Examiner's objections and rejections have been overcome and should be removed and the present application should now be in condition for allowance.

Should any changes to the claims and/or specification be deemed necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to discuss the same.

It is believed that submission of this communication is timely. In the event that any fee is required for the entry of this amendment the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge said fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0518 in the name of Steinberg & Raskin, P.C.

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
STEINBERG & RASKIN, P.C.

By: 

Paul J. Higgins
Reg. No. 44,152

Steinberg & Raskin, P.C.
1140 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
(212) 768-3800